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CINGULAR JOINS TRI-RAIL TO REACH YOUNG-ADULT MARKET

Tri-Rail is enjoying a new partnership with Cingular Wireless, happening now through January 31. Students at select colleges and universities are receiving information about Tri-Rail via campus newspapers, bookstore displays and booth presentations. This outreach is helping to "spread the word" to students about Tri-Rail's improved schedule and discounted fares for students (offering savings of 50 percent off regular Tri-Rail fares). In addition, radio commercials are airing on select stations informing students that Tri-Rail is truly the cost-effective way to get to school, work or just for play.

As an added bonus, students are directed to visit www.tri-rail.com to register to win a cellular phone with one-year of service, compliments of Cingular Wireless. Three winners will be selected. Upon registration, all entrants will also receive a complimentary ticket to ride Tri-Rail.

For more information, or to register for this promotion, visit www.tri-rail.com.



cingular®


January 2007

onboard

The latest news from the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority, a partnership between Broward, Miami-Dade & Palm Beach counties.

A message from SFRTA Executive Director Joseph Giulietti

MAKING OUR DREAMS A REALITY



This has been one of the most significant years in the history of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority and Tri-Rail. We completed the Double Track Corridor Improvement Program, Segment 5 Project in March, allowing us to enhance Tri-Rail operations from 30 to 40 trains a day. The 30(+) percent growth in ridership we experienced confirmed our belief, as in the popular movie, Field of Dreams, "if you build it, they will come." We are at the point of carrying 12,500 passengers daily, up from approximately 9,300, just one year ago.

Although our on-time performance has improved dramatically, it has not yet reached the standard we expect and desire. We are finally on the path to taking over the dispatch of the corridor, which will enable us to finally prioritize passenger service over freight transport. Former Governor Bush announced an agreement-in-principle to allow these negotiations to proceed.

We hope to have the transition implemented in the first quarter of 2007, when the New River Bridge Project (construction of a new 55-foot high, fixed-span bridge over the New River) is scheduled for completion. With the New River Bridge standing tall, the SFRTA will be able to operate a full complement of 48, possibly 50, Tri-Rail trains daily, Monday through Friday.

The biggest setback of the past year was the defeat of a dedicated funding source for the SFRTA. In spite of the bill passing the Florida Legislature with overwhelming support, it was vetoed by the governor. The bill, which levied a \$2-a-day surcharge on rental cars, would have brought approximately \$45 million into the agency on an annual basis to fund improvements in the regional transportation system.

Even more critical, it would have provided the levels of secure, local funding necessary to compete for matching dollars from the federal government. We are grateful to the members of the Florida

(Continued on next page)



MORE THAN THREE-MILLION PASSENGERS SERVED



ri-Rail recently carried its three-millionth passenger for the first time in a calendar year! In celebration of this major milestone, Tri-Rail team members appeared at each station, distributing 5,000 promotional scratch-off cards to riders. Participants who received a card with a designated money symbol were awarded a Tri-Rail Monthly Ticket and invited to attend a special reception at the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport Station at Dania Beach. At the reception, winners enjoyed the chance to grab cash in Majic 102.7's Money Grabber machine and win other great prizes. Pictured above is SFRTA Executive Director Joseph Giulietti with winners (pictured l-r) O'Neil Smith, Rod Shrader, Larisa Sickuiene, Elizabeth Anderson, Jennifer Nicole Morphis, Robert Burns and Maurice Napier.



South Florida Regional Transportation Authority/Tri-Rail
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House and Senate who voted to pass this bill, and look forward to counting on them once again when the effort to find a dedicated revenue stream begins anew with the next legislative session. We look forward to beginning a productive dialogue with our new governor.

This year is one that offers a huge field of dreams and promise; the promise to rededicate the SFRTA's mission to provide a first-class level of passenger rail service for our Tri-Rail passengers, as well as a renewed commitment to seeking the level of funding necessary to build a viable public transportation system for South Florida.

May the new year bring health, happiness, and peace to you and your loved ones.

CONVERTIENDO NUESTROS EN REALIDAD

Este año ha marcado un hito en la historia de la Autoridad Regional de Transporte del Sur de la Florida y Tri-Rail. En Marzo completamos el Proyecto de Mejoramiento de la Doble Vía Férrea en el Segmento 5 del Corredor, lo cual nos permitió aumentar las operaciones de 30 a 40 trenes diarios. Asimismo, experimentamos un incremento de pasajeros de más del 30 por ciento, confirmando nuestra fe en el lema de la película popular Campo de sueños: "Si lo construyes, el público vendrá". En la actualidad, estamos proporcionando transporte para unos 13,000 pasajeros al día, en comparación con unos 9,300 al día durante el año anterior.

Aunque nuestro rendimiento con respecto a la puntualidad ha mejorado de manera espectacular, aún no ha alcanzado el estándar que esperamos y deseamos. Estamos a punto de tomar posesión de las funciones de despacho en el Corredor de Trenes del Sur de la Florida, sobre el cual opera Tri-Rail. Eso nos permitirá dar prioridad al servicio de los trenes de pasajeros ante los trenes de carga. El anterior gobernador Jeb Bush anunció un acuerdo en principio para permitir que las negociaciones al respecto sigan su curso.

Esperamos que la transición se complete durante el primer trimestre de 2007, tiempo en que se programa la terminación del Proyecto del Puente sobre el New River (construcción de un puente de arco fijo con una altura 55 de pies sobre dicho río). Con el Puente New River erigido como un coloso, la SFRTA tendrá la capacidad de operar la dotación completa de 48, y posiblemente de hasta 50, trenes de Tri-Rail a diario, de lunes a viernes.

Nuestro revés más grande en el año pasado fue el fracaso de asegurar una fuente de fondos exclusiva para la SFRTA. A pesar de que la legislatura floridana aprobó la propuesta de ley por una gran mayoría, ésta fue vetada por el gobernador. La ley, que proponía un recargo de \$2 al día sobre los vehículos de alquiler, hubiera recaudado aproximadamente \$45 millones al año para subvencionar las mejoras de sistema de transporte regional.

Aún de más importancia, hubiera proporcionado los niveles seguros de fondos locales necesarios para competir por fondos correspondientes del gobierno federal. Agradecemos a los miembros de la Cámara de Representantes y del Senado del Estado de la Florida que votaron para aprobar la propuesta, y esperamos contar con ellos otra vez cuando el esfuerzo para buscar fondos exclusivos comience otra vez en la próxima sesión legislativa. Además, esperamos comenzar un diálogo productivo con nuestro nuevo gobernador.

El año nos presentará un campo enorme de sueños y promesas; entre ellos se destacan nuestra dedicación intensificada a la misión de SFRTA de proporcionar un nivel de servicio ferroviario de primera clase para los pasajeros de Tri-Rail, así como nuestro compromiso renovado de buscar los fondos necesarios para construir un sistema de transporte público viable para el sur de la Florida.

Que el año nuevo les traiga salud, felicidad y paz a usted y a sus seres queridos.

FÈ RÈV NOU TOUNEN YON REYALITE

Se te youn nan ane ki te pi empòtan nan tout istwa Otorite Transpò Rejyonan nan Sid DEta Florid ak Tri-Rail. Nou te fini Pwogram Amelyorasyon Koridò a Doub Vwa, Pwojè Segman 5 nan mwa mas, sa ki te pèmèt nou amelyore fonksyonnan Tri-Rail soti 30 rive 40 tren pa jou. Kwasans omwen 30 poustan nan kantite pasaje nou te konstate ete sa a te vin konfime sa nou te kwè deja, menmjan ak sa yo te di nan film popilè ki rele Field of Dreams, "konstwi li, moun va vini." Nou prèt pou n ap transpòte 12,500 pasaje pa jou, kont anviwon 9,300 pa jou ane dènyè.

Miyò ve lasante, lajwa ak lapè pou ou menm ak tout fanmi w.

nou te amelyore anpil, li poko atenn estandan n ap vize e n ap swete a. Tren machandiz yo ap kontinye afekte tren pasaje yo, menmji

nou an bòn vwa pou enpak negatif sa a diminye. Finalman, nou pral reprann kontwòl repati, sa ki finalman va pèmèt nou kapab bay transpò pasaje yo priyorte sou transpò machandiz. Ansyen Gouvènè Jeb Bush fèk anonsé yon akò de prensip ki pral pèmèt negosyasyon sa yo kontinye.

Nou espere tranzisyon an ap aplikab nan premye trimès ane 2007, lè Pwojè Pon New River la (ki se konstriksyon yon nouvo pon ki gen trave ki fiks ki gen 55 pye wotè pou travèse New River la) sipòze fini. Grasa a bèl Pon New River k ap kanpe fèm, SFRTA pral kapab sèvi ak 48 tren Tri-Rail adisyonèl, oswa menm 50 tren adisyonèl, ki byen ranpli, k ap woule depi lendi rive vandredi.

Pi gwo desepsyon nou anse pase se te echèk sous finansman eksklizif SFRTA a. Malgré yon gwo majorite lejislatè nan Paleman Eta Florid la te vote anfavè pwojè-lwa sa a, gouvènè a te mete veto sou li. Pwojè-lwa sa a, ki te prewa kolekte yon pernan \$2 pa jou sou tout vvati lokasyon yo, t ap kapab pote anviwon \$45 milyon chak ane nan kès enstitisyò sa a pou finanse tout amelyorasyon ki nesesè nan system transpò rejonal la. Sa ki pi grav toujou, pwojè-lwa sa a ta kapab ofri nivo finansman lokal yo ki garanti e nesesè pou kapab aplike pou gouvènman federal la kontribye lòt mwatyé lajan an. Nou di tout manm Asanble ak Sena Eta Florid ki te vote pou pwojè-lwa sa a yon gran mèsi, e nou espere n ap kapab konte sou yo ankò lè demach n ap fè pou jwenn yon sous revni ki ofisyèl pral rekòmanse ak pwochen sesyon lejislatif la. Nou trè kontan kapab koumanse yon dyalòg ki pwodiktif ak nouvo gouvènè nou an.

Nou trè optimis pou ane si la a; nou konfyans n ap kapab reyalize misyon SFRTA a ki se founi tout pasaje Tri-Rail yo yon sevis transpò chemen dfè ki gen bon kalite, ak yon angajman fèm pou chèche attèn nivo finansman ki nesesè pou kapab etabli yon sisyèm transpò piblik ki vyab pou Sid Eta Florid.

Miyò ve lasante, lajwa ak lapè pou ou menm ak tout fanmi w.



SPECIAL EVENTS AROUND SOUTH FLORIDA

SUPER BOWL XLI

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4



Super Bowl XLI and Tri-Rail have partnered to bring South Florida the most convenient and cost-effective way to get to the big game at Dolphin Stadium (fares as low as \$2 for weekend travel). With more than 75,000 football fans expected to attend the game on Sunday, February 4, Tri-Rail gives you the opportunity to enjoy all that Super Bowl XLI has to offer, without the headache of traffic congestion and costly parking fees. Plus, Tri-Rail has added special evening, northbound and southbound "Super Bowl" trains, scheduled to depart one-hour following the end of the game.



HOW TO GET THERE: You can conveniently board the train at any of Tri-Rail's 18 stations. Once onboard, take Tri-Rail to the Golden Glades Station. A designated shuttle bus operated by Miami-Dade Transit will take you directly from the Golden Glades Station to the stadium for only \$5 roundtrip.

For more information about Super Bowl XLI, visit www.superbowlxli.org, or for more information about Tri-Rail's special Super Bowl XLI service log onto www.tri-rail.com.



LAKE WORTH STREET PAINTING FESTIVAL

SATURDAY THROUGH SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24 - 25

Come and watch as more than 400 artists use the pavement as a canvas to transform Downtown Lake Worth into a temporary outdoor museum during the Lake Worth Street Painting Festival, February 24-25, 2007. The free festival includes strolling minstrels, jazz, classical music, dance, theatre, improvisation and an array of street-side cafes.

HOW TO GET THERE: Take Tri-Rail southbound to the Metrorail Transfer Station. Transfer onto Metrorail (a free connection with your Tri-Rail ticket) heading southbound to Douglas Road. Please note that 12-Trip Ticket holders must obtain a free transfer from Tri-Rail's Metrorail Transfer Station's Ticket Agent. Board a designated Miami-Dade Transit shuttle for just \$1 roundtrip.

For more information about the festival, visit www.coconutgroveartsfest.com or call 305-447-0401.

